

AN ACT

relating to foster care placement decisions made by the Department of Family and Protective Services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subsection (e), Section 264.107, Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

(e) In making placement decisions, the department shall:

(1) except when making an emergency placement that does not allow time for the required consultations, consult with the child's caseworker, ~~[and the child's]~~ attorney ad litem, and guardian ad litem and with any~~[, or]~~ court-appointed volunteer advocate for the child ~~[when possible]~~; and

(2) use clinical protocols to match a child to the most appropriate placement resource.

SECTION 2. Subsection (e), Section 264.107, Family Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to a foster care placement decision made by the Department of Family and Protective Services on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 425 passed the Senate on March 13, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 425 passed the House on May 10, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor